

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 044406

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CASC, VS

SUBJECT: AMCITS IN SOUTH VIETNAM - STAFFDEL DEHAAN

REFS: (A) STATE 040430; (B) BANGKOK 4006

1. SINCE STAFFDEL UNABLE TO MEET WITH ICRC REPRESENTATIVES IN SAIGON, SUGGEST STAFFDEL OR EMBASSY PASS COPY OF LIST OF AMCITS IN SOUTH VIETNAM TO ICRC REPRESENTATIVE IN BANGKOK, WITH SUGGESTION THAT HE FORWARD LIST AT HIS DISCRETION TO ICRC'S SAIGON OFFICE.

2. ALTHOUGH WE BELIEVE LIST IS ACCURATE, WE DO NOT THINK IT WOULD BE USEFUL AT THIS TIME FOR ICRC OR UNHCR TO GIVE LIST AS SUCH TO PRG OR DRV AUTHORITIES. WE THINK IT WOULD BE MORE HELPFUL FOR ICRC/UNHCR REPRESENTATIVES TO INQUIRE INDIVIDUALLY ABOUT AMERICANS ON THE LIST WITH WHOM THEY
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HAVE NOT HAD CONTACT, PARTICULARLY THOSE REPORTED TO BE

CAPTURED OR IN PRISON (ARLO GAY, TUCKER GOUGELMAN, AND AND WILLIAM S. COOPER). ANY INFORMATION OR MESSAGES FROM THESE AND OTHER AMERICANS IN SOUTH VIETNAM WILL BE APPRECIATED BY THEIR FAMILIES.

3. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE WHATEVER CLARIFICATION UNHCR/ ICRC CAN PROVIDE ON PRG POLICY REGARDING DEPARTURE OF AMERICANS. WE NOTE THAT A NUMBER OF THE AMCITS REPORTEDLY ARE SAID TO HAVE EXIT VISAS, AND WE EARLIER SAW REPORT FROM QUAKER REPRESENTATIVES TO THE EFFECT THAT ALL AMERICANS WHO WISH TO LEAVE SAIGON COULD DO SO. AT SAME TIME, THERE HAVE BEEN NO DEPARTURES OF AMERICANS FROM SAIGON IN SOME TIME, AND FAMILIES OF THESE PEOPLE CONTINUE TO BE SERIOUSLY CONCERNED ABOUT THEM. ANY INSIGHTS THAT CAN BE PROVIDED ON THIS SUBJECT WILL BE APPRECIATED.

4. IN ADDITION TO AMCITS LISTED IN REF A, WE CONTINUE TO RECEIVE INFORMATION ABOUT DEPENDENT CHILDREN OF AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO HAVE CLAIM TO AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP WHO ALSO REMAIN IN SVN. IN SOME CASES THE AMCIT PARENT IN THE U.S. IS TRYING TO ARRANGE FOR THEIR DEPARTURE. WE AND THE AMERICAN RED CROSS ARE MAINTAINING SEPARATE LISTS OF THESE CHILDREN WHICH WE WILL FORWARD TO POSTS AND ICRC IN DUE COURSE.
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